

House Resolution 1288 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE) (AM)

By: Representatives Martin of the 47th and Lewis of the 15th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Telecommunications Competition Review Study Committee; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, "The Telecommunications and Competition Development Act of 1995" was
4 adopted by the Georgia General Assembly for the purpose of promoting market based
5 competition, establishing a new regulatory model, providing for pricing flexibility,
6 encouraging investment in telecommunications infrastructure, promoting economic growth,
7 responding to growing consumer demand, and assuring reasonable cost for universal access
8 to basic local exchange service; and

9 WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly continues to be committed to the promotion of
10 market based competition to promote telecommunications to the benefit of Georgia's citizens
11 state wide; and

12 WHEREAS, in order to promote telecommunications to the benefit of Georgia's citizens state
13 wide it is necessary that telecommunications providers be treated fairly and equitably; and

14 WHEREAS, there has been no study or review of the level of intercarrier compensation and
15 the effect on competition and economic development in Georgia for 12 years; and

16 WHEREAS, the current manner in which intercarrier compensation within the State of
17 Georgia assures the provision of reasonably priced access to communications services may
18 need to be examined in light of current technology and to ensure the equitable regulation of
19 such access to communications services; and

20 WHEREAS, it would be appropriate for the Georgia General Assembly to revisit its
21 telecommunications policy to determine if it may again be appropriate to lead the nation into
22 the twenty-first century of telecommunications policy.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 there is created the House Telecommunications Competition Review Study Committee to be
3 composed of not more than six members of the House to be appointed by the Speaker of the
4 House. The Speaker of the House shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson
5 of the committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
7 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action
8 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
9 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
10 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
11 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
12 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of
13 Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by
14 any member of the committee for more than three days unless additional days are authorized.
15 The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
16 appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event the committee makes a report of
17 its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such
18 report shall be made on or before December 1, 2008. The committee shall stand abolished
19 on December 1, 2008.